

SC Resource Conservation Challenge
Task Force Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2004

Attendees:

Karen Owens, S.C. Department of Commerce
Johnny Reed, DHEC
Deno Verenes, S.C. Department of Education
Michael Cupp, S.C. Department of Education
Brenda Holland, Piedmont Tech
Jane Hiller, Paper Stock Dealers Inc.
Albert Rosenthal, S.C. Department of Corrections
Renee Daggerhart, S.C. Energy Office
Holly Storey, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling
Mitzi Stewart, Winthrop University
Danielle Nivens, S.C. Department of Education
Richard Chesley, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling
Pam Bergstrand, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling
Carolyn Tomlinson, Dorchester County/Clemson University Extension Service
Eric Melaro, DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling
Les Swygert, S.C. Department of Corrections

The S.C. Resource Conservation Challenge Task Force held its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, January 13, 2004 at the S.C. Department of Education.

Each of the workgroup's three committee gave brief reports.

The Energy Conservation Committee, chaired by Renee Daggerhart, presented performance contracts, water conservation and computer usage as issues that need to be addressed.

The Procurement Committee, chaired by Pam Bergstrand, discussed how agencies operate "differently" in terms of procurement. The committee expressed a need to develop outreach to procurement staff at state-supported entities. The committee presented the purchase or recycled content products and the use of state term contracts as issues that need to be addressed.

The Communications Committee is chaired by Karen Owens. Holly Storey presented that the Web page has been developed and is expected to be "live" by mid-to-late February.

Pam Bergstrand updated the Task Force on the statewide electronics contract. The contract is currently still being reviewed and there is no time frame established for its completion. It was clarified to the Task Force that the contract users still would be responsible for cost.

Eric Melaro explained and encouraged all Task Force members to join the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WasteWise program. Melaro explained that DHEC's is an endorser of the program.

Les Swygert explained the S.C. Department of Corrections (SCDC) decision to charge state agencies beginning in February for the recycling collection that is provided by SCDC. Swygert

said nine agencies had responded and that seven were planning on continuing the SCDC service.

Three upcoming dates were mentioned:

The goals and objectives for 2004 were set. They are:

- (1) Hold a workshop in 2004. Potential topics include education and outreach to procurement staff, green building and sustainability and other traditional issues.
- (2) Promote energy conservation through the adoption of energy-efficient lighting. The work will include developing a fact sheet on this topic that will include a "how to," energy savings, proper management and recycling of mercury containing lamps and other pertinent issues. The information also will be available on the SCRCC's Web page.
- (3) Develop a "Make A Difference" outreach campaign that will promote success stories from state-supported entities and their staff while encouraging others to duplicate these efforts. It was suggested that we place the success stories and tips on www.myscgov.com and the SCRCC Web page. It was suggested that a "List Serve" be developed of key contacts and decision makers who can "Make A Difference."
- (4) Research, and if proper, promote and recommend the leasing of computers and other office equipment to help reduce electronic or E-waste while saving money. It was suggested that Chief Information Office make a presentation to the Task Force on this issue.

It was suggested that the Communications Committee assist the two other committees in meeting these goals and setting up and promoting the workshop. It also was suggested that the Task Force recognize appropriate Recycle Guys award winners at the workshop.

Committee chairs are encouraged to meet with their groups or at least discuss and develop a plan to meet these goals.

The next meeting is set for February 18 beginning at 10 a.m. at the S.C. Department of Commerce. A room number and directions will follow in another e-mail.

Resource Conservation Challenge

School Component: Green Steps Program - Pilot Projects for 2004

Airport High School L2

Stephanie Bailey, teacher

Pam Bergstrand, mentor

Project: working on chemicals used by the custodial staff ... trying to find safer alternatives to the products used.

Hand Middle School R1

Chris Bailey, teacher

Amy Curran, mentor

Project: working on indoor air quality ... adding plants to the inside of the school in every classroom, workroom, common area, etc.

Pine Ridge Middle School L2

Jane Lawther, teacher

Jane Hiller, mentor

Project: working on expanding recycling project to include outdoor composting.

Heathwood Hall Episcopal School Private

Stan Wood, teacher

Lynne LaSalle and Meredith Barkley, mentors

Project: water quality ... working on improving an existing pond on campus

Crossroads Middle School L/R 2

Linda Durstein, teacher

Sara Green and Kim Spicer mentors

Project: organic gardening and heirloom plants

Notes: Sara reported that she has not been able to get in contact with Linda, but would try again this week.

Summit Parkway Middle School R2

Kim Noe, teacher

Holly Storey, Bill Eisele, Richard Baldauf, Renee Daggerhart, mentors

Project: energy ... saving energy, cost-savings to the school ... more to come

Windsor Elementary School R2

Judy Rogers, teacher

Joan Williams, mentor

Project: outdoor vermin-compost project with commercial WigWam

Funding

The Sertoma Club presented Keep the Midlands Beautiful with a check that will help fund the Green Steps program. And Sonoco Products Corporation has pledged a \$500 sponsorship. Additional funding will need to be researched. Concern was raised about charging a fee for schools to participate in this program. We will need to discuss this further.

Awards Ceremony

Will be held this year at the Columbia Chamber of Commerce's Palmetto Room in the evening so that families can attend ... dates we are looking at include April 19, 26 or 29.